

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 9, 2009. Claims 21 to 39 are pending in the application, with Claims 1 to 21 having been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, and 38 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 7 and 15 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 2, 9 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the claims allegedly contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 2 to 6, 9 to 13 and 16 to 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 8, 11, 15 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) over U.S. Published Appln. No. 2002/0041395 (Kimura). Claims 2, 4 to 6, 9, 12, 13, 16, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kimura in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,559,933 (Boswell). Claims 3, 10 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kimura in view of Boswell, and in further view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). Claims 7, 14 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kimura in view of Allegedly Admitted Prior Art.

Without conceding the correctness of any of the rejections, Applicants have canceled Claims 1 to 21 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections.

The present invention concerns saving processing time when printing successively on a printer by the same application. In one aspect of the invention, an information processing apparatus that communicates with the printer determines whether a current print job and a next print job succeeding to the current print job are generated by a specified application. If so, information which causes a resetting process in the printer is discarded. In another aspect of the invention, the successive print jobs are combined.

Representative Claim 22 is directed to an information processing apparatus in communication with a printing apparatus which executes a resetting process at a partition between print jobs. The information processing apparatus comprises a first discrimination unit that discriminates whether a current print job and a next print job succeeding to the current print job are generated by a specific application, a second discrimination unit that discriminates whether the number of copies for the current print job and the next print job each is one, and a discard unit that discards information which causes the resetting process when said first discrimination unit discriminates that the current print job and the next print job are generated by the specific application and when said second discrimination unit discriminates that the number of copies for the current print job and the next print job each is one.

Representative Claim 34 is directed to a method of an information processing apparatus in communication with a printing apparatus. The method comprises performing by the information processing apparatus the following a first discrimination of

discriminating whether a current print job and a next print job succeeding to the current print job are generated by a specific application, a second discrimination of discriminating whether the number of copies for the current print job and the next print job each is one; and combining the current print job with the next print job when said first discrimination discriminates that the current print job and the next print job are generated by the specific application and when said second discrimination discriminates that the number of copies for the current print job and the next print job each is one.

In contrast to the present invention, Kimura discloses grouping a plurality of spooled jobs into a grouped job and sending the grouped job to a printer. Furthermore, Boswell discloses that a print queue comprises a list of print jobs having similar attributes and further discloses controlling a print process based on attributes. However, neither Kimura nor Boswell, whether considered alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the feature of discarding information which causes the resetting process when a first discrimination unit discriminates that the current print job and the next print job are generated by the specific application and when a second discrimination unit discriminates that the number of copies for the current print job and the next print job each is one or the feature of combining the current print job with the next print job when a first discrimination discriminates that the current print job and the next print job are generated by the specific application and when a second discrimination discriminates that the number of copies for the current print job and the next print job each is one.

In a system using either of these features, printing speed can be maintained in a printer that executes a resetting process at every partition between print jobs, even in a case where the printing process is executed based on an application which generates a

plurality of one-page print jobs to print one print job comprising a plurality of one-page copies. Such a technical effect cannot be achieved by any permissible combination of Kimura nor Boswell.

In light of the deficiencies of Kimura and Boswell, Applicants submit that Claims 22 and 34 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

Claims 23, 25, 26, 28 and 29 are directed to an apparatus, a method, a method, a computer-readable storage medium and a computer-readable storage medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 23. Claims 31, 32, 35, 37 and 38 are directed to an apparatus, an apparatus, a method, a computer-readable storage medium and a computer-readable storage medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 34. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 35, 37 and 38 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

CONCLUSION

The previous highest claim count was 21 total with 3 claims in independent form. The current claim count is 18 total with 11 claims in independent form. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the additional \$1,760.00 in claims fees to depository account 50-3939. Furthermore, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any underage or credit any overage to depository account 06-1205.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Frank L. Cire #42,419/

Frank L. Cire
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 42,419

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FCBS_WS 2925564v1